[XXXVIth Year.] [No. 1802.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1781.

To the PEOPLE of MARYLAND.

Fortiter, contra latrones, & hoſtes humani generis, pro patriâ, pro liberis, pro aris, ſociſque. SALL.

You contend against robbers, and the enemies of mankind, for your country, your poſterity, your religion, and property.

THOUGH above ſix years America has defended herſelf againſt one of the moſt powerful nations in the world; and though her efforts have been crowned with ſucceſs beyond the expectation of the moſt ſanguine man amongſt us. Every motive which firſt impelled you to enter into the war, is encreaſed an hundred fold, whether you conſider the fatal conſequences, if conquered; or the happineſs, wealth, and power, which muſt flow from peace and independence. Your honour and pride, your glory and ſafety, all combine to urge you to the utmoſt exertions; and you have more ability to continue the war for ſix years longer, than you had for the ſix which are paſt*. Your new government, (the beſt in the union, and which you may amend at pleaſure) has been eſtabliſhed almoſt five years. Your numbers have not decreaſed, though your loſſes in the field, and the hoſpitals, have been very conſiderable†. Your enrolled militia are above 30,000; and the natural population, with the migration from other ſtates, will, probably, as heretofore, make up your future loſſes in the war. You have above 1500 regular troops, under brave experienced officers; and it cannot be doubted, that your virtuous ſoldiery will preſerve the military reputation they have ſo juſtly acquired. The property in the ſtate is above the value of ſixteen millions of real money; and your ſoil is burthened with the moſt plentiful crops of grain. Your bountiful creator has bleſſed you with every means to defend yourſelves, if you will but exerciſe your wiſdom to call them forth; and will purſue, with firmneſs and deciſion, the ſame diſintereſted meaſures, which directed your councils and exertions in the commencement, and for the three firſt years of the war. The very honourable and diſintereſted alliance, with the illuſtrious monarch of France, will aſſure your independence, if you do not, from a love of preſent eaſe, and vain purſuits of imaginary wealth, neglect to make the exertions which are in your power.

In the commencement of the war, and frequently ſince, you ſolemnly pledged your lives, property, and ſacred honour, to proſecute it with vigour. For ſeveral years no taxes were laid, and thoſe you have paid, though *nominally* great, were *really* very trifling, when reduced to ſpecie, and compared with your whole property, or even the intereſt, or profits; and greatly inferior to what you, with reaſon, could expect.

In 1777 February, 10/ in every £.100, payable in April 1778, exchange 6 for 1	£. 1 8
1778 March, 25/ payable in September, exchange 5	5 0
— October, 55/ payable in Nov. 1779, exchange 20	3 3
1779 March, 40/ payable as above	
— July, £.9 15 payable as above, exc. 40	4 10½
— November, £.5 payable in May and July, exchange 60 to 65	1 8
1780 March £.20 ⅓ payable in June, exchange 60, and reſidue in November, exchange 80, time extended to Jan. 1781, exchange 100	4 0
——— 28 lb. tobacco, payable in Sept. at £.90, exchange 70	7 ½
— June £.15, claſs money for recruits, payable in July, exchange 65	4 7½
— October, 30/ ſpecie. ⅓ payable in April 1781, in new cont. or ſtate at 2 for 1	7 6
——— 4/ ſpecie, or value, claſs money for recruits, paid at 2 and 3 for 1	2 0
	£.2 1 7½

A conſiderable debt hath been contracted by congreſs, on behalf of the United States, of which the proportion of this ſtate may be eſtimated at one eleventh, and may amount to £.820,000. Our ſtate debt ‡ may amount to £.430,000 real money, and this for the expence of a ſix years war with Great-Britain. I am aſhamed when I review the conduct of the ſtates for the laſt three years. Immediately after the alliance with France, we fell into a fatal ſecurity, and ſuddenly relaxed, as if the enemy had been totally ſubdued, or driven from the continent. The war, and the object of it, was entirely forgot, and many of our people became ſpeculators and projectors, and amuſed themſelves with dreams of wealth, diſſipation and luxury. Our enemy took advantage of our lethargy, and puſhed their operations with ſucceſs againſt the ſouthern ſtates. Part of our people, and ſome of our leaders, began to talk of difficulties, diſtreſs, and dangers; phantoms only to frighten women and children and cowards. Our ſufferings are mentioned, and yet, from our central ſituation, we have experienced leſs of the diſtreſſes and ravages of war, than any of the ſtates in the union; and the little we have ſuffered has been entirely owing to our own folly, indolence and avarice. Are you acquainted with the ſufferings of the Dutch, or the Switzers, or even of our anceſtors in England, for their liberties? If you are, you would bluſh to mention yours, or to draw any compariſon with theirs. Are you informed of the private ſubſcriptions of your enemies to reduce you to ſubmit to their will, the bluſh of ſhame would cover you; becauſe to your everlaſting diſgrace, you have not done one hundredth part to ſave the liberties of yourſelves and poſterity, as the wicked, the corrupt people of England have done to deſtroy them. They have acted from national pride, the honour and love of their country, their intereſt, and the hopes of revenge. If you will awake from your ſlumbers, and enquire what is requiſite for you to perform; the anſwer is obvious; fill your battalions, and ſupply them with neceſſaries; and all other things will be given unto you. But you have no money, and without it you cannot obtain recruits, or procure ſupplies. Gold and ſilver you have not, and paper money has loſt its credit and value. I admit that it is not practicable for you to pay, annually, taxes ſufficient to defray the current expences of the war, and your civil eſtabliſhment; the moſt opulent nations in Europe cannot raiſe, by taxes, their annual expenditures, in time of war. A government can only procure money by loan and taxes. In our circumſtances it is impracticable to obtain, by both theſe modes, ſums equal to the exigences of government; therefore on credit alone can you obtain the neceſſary ſupplies; and thence the indiſpenſable neceſſity of your ſupporting the credit and value of paper money. There is no other poſſible mode, unleſs by force, by which you can expect to proſecute the war. You have your choice; ſubmit to Great-Britain, or tax yourſelves liberally, and ſupport the credit of the paper money, iſſued on your faith and honour. Your aſſembly, at the laſt ſeſſion, to defray the expences of the preſent campaign, paſſed a law for the emiſſion of £.200,000 in bills of credit, on a landed fund double the value of the ſum iſſued, to be ſunk on or before the 25th of June 1785. The funds are, public property, at the loweſt valuation, worth above £.125,000 ſpecie; a tax to produce annually £.20,000 ſpecie, in the next three years; and ſubſcriptions payable on or before the firſt of November 1784. No perſon can ſubſcribe leſs than £.100, and muſt give in, at the time of ſubſcription, a particular of freehold eſtate, or real chattels, aſſeſſed to the value of double the ſum ſubſcribed, as a ſecurity for payment. If the funds ſhould not produce ſufficient to redeem the whole emiſſion, the balance is to be proportioned among the ſubſcribers, according to their ſeveral ſubſcriptions; and if they ſhould advance they are to be allowed 8 per cent. intereſt, and at all events indemnified by the public ‖. By this ſcheme private is added to public ſecurity, and the poſſeſſors of the bills of credit enſured, at all events, except conqueſt, to receive, in four years, gold or ſilver to the amount of the ſum expreſſed on the face of the bills. If the credit of this emiſſion cannot be ſupported, we muſt deſpair of giving a real and permanent value to any paper money; the funds are indiſputably ample, the quantity ſmall, and the period of redemption ſhort, and public and private faith jointly pledged for payment in ſpecie, without any diſcount for any depreciation which may poſſibly happen. Any ſubſcriber may pay in the whole, or any part of his ſubſcription in ſpecie or bills of credit, to the treaſurer of the weſtern ſhore, and any poſſeſſor of the ſaid bills may deliver them (not leſs than £.100) to either of the treaſurers; ſubſcribers are to receive 8 per cent. poſſeſſors 6 per cent. Any ſubſcriber may pay in and diſcharge himſelf of the whole, or any part of his ſubſcription; and the bearer of any receipt given to any poſſeſſor will be entitled to receive the principal and intereſt in ſpecie. To prevent, as far as poſſible, the bills of credit from depreciating, an aſſociation is propoſed, by which each aſſociator engages, on his honour, to receive from *aſſociators*, the ſaid bills of credit, at par with gold, on all paſt and future tranſactions, until he ſhall carry into the treaſury the ſum of money, or proportion of his property, affixed to his name; or until he ſhall receive to the amount ſubſcribed, not having had a reaſonable time to carry it into the treaſury. This aſſociation generally and liberally entered into, will certainly ſecure the money from any depreciation worthy of notice. Whether the money ſhall iſſue from the office depends on the bonds taken for property ſold, and the ſubſcriptions; whether it ſhall depreciate depends on the aſſociations. In a word, as the credit and value of all paper money depends ſolely on public opinion; it remains with you to ſtamp a value on your own notes of credit. If you neglect, or ſlumber, the wheels of government muſt ſtop, and all means to procure ſupplies, by purchaſe, or to make ſpeedy and vigorous exertions againſt the enemy, muſt fail. In my judgment every man, who declines to ſubſcribe, is a worthleſs member of the community; and every one, who refuſes to aſſociate, ought to be conſidered as unfriendly to us and our cauſe, and unworthy ever to execute any office of truſt or profit in the government; and any man, who ſhall wilfully violate his honour, and depreciate the money, by aſking more in the new bills of credit, for goods or produce, than the current market price, in ſpecie, ought to be conſidered of ſuſpicious or infamous character, and his name publiſhed; and no one afterwards ought to deal or aſſociate with him §. Every man of reflection muſt diſcover the fatal effects, which have already, and muſt continue to flow from a depreciating currency. All ranks of men ſuffer ſeverely, and yet very few will do any thing to prevent it. All complain, but many give nothing but murmurs to remedy the miſchief ‡. Every man, who buys

* *It is not improbable from the laſt intelligence from Europe, that the preſent will be the laſt campaign; and that a peace or truce will take place next winter. The terms for America depend on herſelf, and ſhe ought to act as if the war would continue ſeveral years.*

† *This obſervation applies to all the ſtates, whoſe numbers are calculated at above two millions; eſtimating one out of five able to bear arms, there will be 400,000 fighting men in the United States.*

‡ *The debt to our officers and ſoldiers is not included.*

‖ *The ſales of the landed property, and the produce of the taxes, pledged for the redemption of the new emiſſion, will amount to £.125,000. If the ſubſcriptions do not exceed that ſum, the ſubſcribers cannot be called on for one farthing; if the whole ſum emitted ſhould be ſubſcribed, they will be anſwerable for their proportion only of £.15,000, eventually, and on the ſuppoſition that the general aſſembly will not be able to provide for the payment of that ſum. In fact, a ſubſcriber, in any probable event, will not be anſwerable, even to the amount of the tenth part of the ſum by him ſubſcribed.*

§ *It may not be improper to revive the antient cuſtom of tarring and feathering, and to expel ſuch infamous characters the ſtate.*

‡ *It is viſionary in our merchants to expect to carry on trade with ſpecie. Gold and ſilver, by the general conſent of all civiliſed nations, is eſtabliſhed, as the common meaſure, or ſtandard, by which to aſcertain the price, or value of goods, or labour; gold or ſilver therefore, is the* repreſentative *of all property; and credit, that is notes, or bills of credit, is the ſign, or repreſentation of gold. In every ſtate there ought to be as much money, or notes, or bills of credit, as will repreſent all the objects of commerce, that is all the property and labour bought or ſold in the ſtate for caſh. This is commonly called the* medium *of trade. What ſum the commerce of the United States would require, during the war, can only be conjectured. The objects of trade for five years before the war, communibus annis, did require about five millions of ſpecie; and there was not one fifth of that ſum in circulation; the reſidue was ſupplied by paper credit. In 1776 above £.238,000 in bills of credit emitted by the old government, and above £.200,000 iſſued by the conventions, were in circulation, and paſſed, until the month of Auguſt, at par with ſpecie; above £.100,000 in gold it is probable was alſo in circulation. The emiſſions by congreſs to Auguſt 1776 amounted to 35 millions of dollars; and in November £.200,000 more was emitted, and yet the actual depreciation compared with gold, was only 2 for 1 to the month of April 1777. Theſe facts evince that above £.600,000 ſpecie, or its value in paper credit, is requiſite to carry on the preſent trade of this ſtate.*

or sells, will in the next six months, suffer a greater loss, than he can possibly sustain by associating, and subscribing a reasonable part of his property. Let every man put his hand to the work, and there cannot possibly be any loss, and our affairs will soon wear a very different aspect.

If virtue and love of your country are not sufficient motives to influence you to give a small part of your property to protect and secure the whole, a few moments attention to your real interest will determine your conduct. Maturely consider what effects will probably flow from your submission to wicked, incensed and rapacious conquerors. Take a short view of the debt, and taxes of Great-Britain. Her national debt before the present war was about 136 millions of pounds sterling; the annual interest thereof about 5 millions. Her annual income, by duties and taxes, and her expences in *peace*, about 10 millions *. The present war has added about 60 millions to her national debt †. If America should be subjugated, she will probably be compelled to pay, at least, her proportion of the annual expences of Great-Britain, which would be above 5 millions of pounds specie, in *peace*, and much more in *war*; and this burthen must be borne by tories as well as whigs; no difference would be made between them, except that some very few tories of *active* merit and great interest, or powerful connections, might be employed as her instruments to grind you, and to collect the taxes ‖.

You have necessarily contracted a considerable debt. It is not in your power, *during the war*, to discharge, but very little, if any part of the principal. You must therefore create a national debt, and establish permanent funds for the punctual payment of the annual interest. You ought, if possible, to pay such of your creditors, whose circumstances will not permit them to lay out of the principal. It is well known, that individuals, many of whom are whigs, and public creditors, have suffered greatly since the war, and that the burthen of supporting it has been very unequal. All the acts of our legislature cannot be justified, or excused; but I hope the losses of individuals have not happened from principles of injustice; but from the difficulties and embarrassments arising from our situation, and the want of specie, and a true knowledge of the nature and effects of paper money.

Under the government of Great-Britain your burthens will be oppressive, and fall equally on whigs and tories; but the whigs, who have taken a decided part in the war, especially those who have accepted any civil or military station, are deeply interested in the event. If the tyrant of Great-Britain should succeed, I can foresee the massacre of the whigs, and a general confiscation of their property; and the return of the infamous refugees, those apostates and parricides of their country, and the advancement of the meanest scoundrels to the first offices in the state. A military and ecclesiastical government, and tyranny, will be established, insupportable not only to an American spirit, but an eastern slave. I shall have this consolation, that I have discharged my duty, and exerted my feeble endeavours to rouse you to a sense of your situation, and the dangers which await you. May the God of all wisdom inspire you with understanding to discover, and virtue and public spirit to pursue your real interests.

AN AMERICAN.

At this time only £. 125,000 paper money is in circulation in this state. £. 50,000 in a few weeks, and the residue in a few months, will be carried into the treasury, and destroyed. The specie lately imported into Philadelphia is a mere trifle compared with the sum necessary for trade, and in a very small space of time will be distributed amongst thousands, and vanish. The debts due to Philadelphia can only be paid in tobacco or flour. If our merchants will consider, they will soon discover the truth of these remarks; they must make their election, and either support the credit of the new emission, or give up the war; maintain the credit of paper money; or give up trade. Patriotism, and interest must determine them to relinquish neither.

* *Great-Britain is a land of taxes. The circulating specie of the nation is about 20 millions. Her annual peace establishment is half that sum. Her perpetual taxes are duties on imports and exports; on tobacco, wine, ale, beer, coffee, tea, sugar, candles, soap, and salt, and indeed on all the necessaries of life. Her annual taxes are on land, and malt.*

† *It would take 200 years, at the present tax of ten millions per year, to discharge the present debt of Great Britain.*

‖ *The intercepted letters wrote, last March, by lord George Germaine to Sir Henry Clinton are worthy the perusal and attention of both whigs and tories: Their contents prove, that the British king and his ministry expect a speedy conquest of America; that the king and his ministers regret the proffered clemency, held out in the proclamations of the commissioners; that the offers of pardon were not sufficiently guarded with exceptions; that the offer to re-admit the supplicants for pardon to the rights they enjoyed under the British government, was more than administration ever intended to grant; that our charters are to be annihilated, and governments constituted agreeable to the will of the parliament; that the recommendation of Sir Harry to put so many of the provincial corps, on the British establishment, was disapproved; and that the construction, by the ministry, of his majesty's instruction, on that subject, would restrict the benefits of it to a very few.*

BOSTON, *July 5.*

CAPTAIN Davis, who arrived here last Saturday, in 19 days from Martinico, informs, that a vessel arrived there from count de Grass, with intelligence that the count had taken Tobago and invested Barbados, where the British fleet, consisting of 17 sail of the line, had taken shelter. Count de Grass's fleet consists of 26 sail of the line, besides frigates, and he had landed 20,000 troops on the island; so that in a few days we may expect intelligence of importance from that quarter.

We have good intelligence by the way of Hispaniola, that after the taking of Pensacola the Spaniards sent back a number of their men of war and transports to the Havanna, to take on board 1500 fresh troops, that were destined for some new enterprise, which, should it succeed, must eventually turn out much to the advantage of the United States.

PHILADELPHIA, *July 12.*

The honourable Samuel Huntington having informed congress, that his ill state of health will not permit him to continue longer to exercise the duties of president, and requested leave of absence, congress proceeded to the choice of another president, and the ballots being taken, the honourable THOMAS M'KEAN was elected.

July 10, 1781. CH. THOMSON, secr.

On Thursday the 21st ult. when Skinner made an excursion into Monmouth county, lieutenant Otter of the militia was out in a boat near Shrewsbury catching clams. A refugee gun-boat, commanded by one Inslee formerly of New-Jersey, was dispatched from a sloop at some distance in pursuit of him. Lieutenant Otter gained the shore, and ran a small distance; but having forgot his coat, turned back to recover it, and just as he arrived at the boat, he was killed by a four pound shot, which passed through his body. Inslee and some of his crew came on shore, when he deliberately rolled up his sleeves, tore the bowels out of lieutenant Otter, and washed his hands and arms in his blood. The wife and children of the unfortunate lieutenant were eye witnesses to the monstrous barbarity of this *imp of hell*.

July 17. The important intelligence mentioned under the Boston head, respecting Tobago and Barbados, is confirmed by letters from the Cape; and the latest letter (June 17) mentions the taking of Barbados as a matter already known here and for that reason does not enter into particulars. The next vessels from that quarter will most probably bring us satisfactory accounts of this interesting news.

The brig Mercury, captain Palmer, is returned into this port, having suffered considerable damage in the thunder storm on Tuesday last, she then lying in Delaware bay, outward bound. Both her masts were so much shattered by lightening as to render them useless, and six of her men were at the same time much hurt; one of them, we hear, is now in a dangerous situation.

ANNAPOLIS, *July 26.*

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated July 17, 1781.

"Congress have had before them a number of official letters from the ministry in Britain to their commander in chief, and other heads of departments in America; they were intercepted in a packet taken in Europe, and transmitted by Dr. Franklin. By the letters of lord G. Germaine to Sir Henry Clinton, &c. it appears that the expectation of a speedy conquest was fully impressed on the British cabinet; and that administration already regretted their proffered clemency, through their commissioners held out in their proclamations. He observes to general Clinton and the other commissioners, that their offers of pardon were not sufficiently guarded with exceptions, and that the supplicants for pardon being readmitted into a full enjoyment of the rights exercised under their former connection was more than government ever intended to grant; or, in other words, that they meant to deprive them of their charters, and constitute their governments more to the will of the parliament. He expresses much satisfaction at the general's information, that there were more provincials in his majesty's service in America, than that of the United States; but laments the mortifying reflection, that under these circumstances the rebellion should have continued so long. His lordship reprehends general Clinton's generosity in recommending so many of the provincial corps to be put on the British establishment, and then, flushed with victory, gives such a construction to his majesty's directions on that subject, as to restrict the benefits of it to very few.

"These instances serve to shew (if it remained to be proved) what would be the treatment of the friends to America in it, if his (Germaine's) imaginary ideas of success were to be realised. No sooner had they any foundation for such a hope, than they begin to estimate the value; and regret the loss of estates secured under former submissions, and wish to discharge from their service, without the rewards held out formerly, those whom they have seduced to be instrumental in accomplishing their supposed conquest. Lord G. Germaine speaks of the Carolinas and Georgia as totally reduced, and has no doubt but that Virginia must immediately yield to the activity and enterprise of lord Cornwallis, supported by so powerful an army. His lordship speaks of an expedition, which has been projected against your bay, approves of it, and urges general Clinton to push it with vigour. It was intended to send a number of troops to the head of your bay to act against Maryland and Pennsylvania; and establish a place of security for the reception of the loyal subjects in these states. The reverse of fortune to the southward hath probably delayed the execution of this plan, and I hope the event of the operations there, and elsewhere, will oblige the enemy totally to abandon it. It appears from Germaine's letters, that they intended to fix a permanent post at Elizabeth river. These letters come down to the 7th of March.

Prince-George's county, July 23, 1781.

COMMITTED to my custody as a runaway, a negro man named BOB, who says he belongs to Joseph Matting in St. Mary's county. He is about 24 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 8 inches high, well made, his cloaths are so indifferent a description is not necessary. His master is desired to take him away and pay charges.

1 THOMAS WILLIAMS, sheriff.

Annapolis, June 9, 1781.

THIS is to give public notice, that the subscriber intends to petition the general assembly of Maryland at their next sitting, to enable him by law to record a deed for fourteen hundred acres of land in Washington county, and a house and five lots in Elizabeth-town, in said county, being part of the estate of Jonathan Hagar, late of the county aforesaid.

w 8 DANIEL HEESTER, jun.

7

THE subscriber intends to petition the next general assembly of this state, for an act to enable him to record a deed, and make it valid, although it was not acknowledged according to the form prescribed by law; it was executed by Mr. Cravath of Baltimore town, in the beginning of 1777, when there was no civil magistrate acting under the new government just then formed.

3 NATHANIEL RAMSEY.

Office for the preservation and sale of forfeited estates, Annapolis, July 18, 1781.

To be SOLD at VENDUE,

THE manors of Bever-dam and Chaprico, in St. Mary's county, in parcels, as tenanted to the present possessors, or otherwise, as may be most conducive to the purpose intended. Many of the leases are expired; some are for lives yet in being, and others are for terms unexpired. The sale of Bever-dam will begin on Thursday the 6th of September next, at Leonard-town. The money to be paid down, if agreeable to the purchasers, if not, they may give bond with security to pay one third of the sum bid on the 1st day of September 1782, another third on the 1st of September 1783, and the remaining third on the 1st of September 1784, in specie, or the new bills of credit to be emitted in pursuance of an act of the last session, at their actual value at the time of payment.

After the sale of these manors is finished, the other manors in St. Mary's, and the three manors in Charles county, will be exposed to public sale on the same terms.

By order, 2 JO. BAXTER, clk.

Annapolis, July 9, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Joseph Selby, late of this city, deceased, for dealings with him since the partnership between him and Mr. John Howard was dissolved, which was in the beginning of the year, 1779, are requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber, or the law will be put in force against them; and all those who have claims against his estate, are desired to make them known, legally authenticated, to

3X ANNE SELBY, executrix.

LAND for sale or lease. Apply to

3X W. SANDERS.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE, Charles-Street.